# Daviess Planning Grant Drug Court Process Evaluation

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# **Daviess Planning Grant Drug Court Process Evaluation**

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#### **Executive Summary**

The purpose of this report is to provide the results of a process evaluation for the planned Daviess Drug Court program. This comprehensive process evaluation included an extensive interview with the Drug Court Judge and surveys of: one community treatment provider, two defense attorneys, two prosecuting attorneys, one representative from the Probation and Parole Office, two representatives from the Daviess County Detention Center, and one Owensboro Police Department representative. In all, 10 different individuals representing 7 different agency perspectives provided information about the planned Daviess Drug Court program for this report.

The data for this report is for the planning grant stage of the Daviess Drug Court program. The Daviess Drug Court program has not yet received funding. However, once funding is received, the Daviess Drug Court program will be implemented. The mission of Kentucky's Drug Courts is to create a criminal justice environment that stops illicit drug use and related criminal activity and promotes recovery. In the program model developed for Daviess County, defendants will be accepted into the program through diversion recommendation made by the County Attorney and the Commonwealth's Attorney, or by probation referrals made by the sentencing Judge. There will be three phases in the Drug Court program, which will take one to two years to complete.

*Program Goal Achievement.* The Daviess Drug Court program has six primary overall goals: promote abstinence; decrease recidivism; increase community safety; increase life skills; increase community awareness; and expand and maintain resource base.

*Drug Court Staff.* Currently, no staff members have been hired for the Daviess Drug Court program. Once funding is received for the Daviess Drug Court program, a full-time treatment coordinator and two part-time case specialists will be hired.

*Drug Court Judge*. Currently, there is one Judge involved in planning the Daviess Drug Court program. Judge Castlen has been on the bench since 1995. One other Circuit Court Judge will work with the Daviess Drug Court program.

Potential Problems. Respondents listed the following potential difficulties with program implementation: (1) Program costs, (2) Resistance from law enforcement, (3) Agencies being understaffed as a result of the Drug Court program, (4) Having to attend multiple training sessions, (5) Formation of a payment plan with treatment providers, and (6) Enforcement and Court involvement in the program to monitor the progress of the clients enrolled. Respondents mentioned that some of these problems could be alleviated through hiring more staff both for agencies working with the Drug Court program and for the Drug Court program itself.

Strengths. Respondents listed the following strengths of the planned Daviess Drug Court program: (1) Prevent criminal conviction, (2) Rehabilitation and treatment are integrated into the criminal justice system, (3) Viable alternative for substance-

abusing offenders, (4) Increase the court and law enforcement's effectiveness in the community, (5) Reduce recidivism, (6) Intense supervision, (7) Reduce cost to taxpayers, (8) Lower caseload, (9) Program will be controlled by the Judge, (10) Community awareness and involvement, (11) Reduced incarceration costs, (12) Support client receives from the Judge, (13) Specific requirements of each phase, and (14) Length of the program.

Concluding Comments. The following were concluding responses by various respondents. Although these are concluding comments, they also are excellent summaries of what respondents think about the Drug Court program.

Defense attorneys stated, "I believe that the Drug Court program...would be excellent for the community and for those individuals that suffer from alcohol and drug addiction."

Jail staff stated, "Jails should be reimbursed by the state for all the days an inmate is incarcerated due to Drug Court as they would be if sentenced by the [regular] court."

Officers from the Office of Probation and Parole stated, "I truly believe that there is a need for this area. Putting people in prison for the use of illegal drugs is not always the answer. The Drug Court is an alternative."

Treatment representatives stated, "I feel the program is excellent and provides a very positive way to support clients in their recovery. I am excited about being part of the planning process in our community and am looking forward to the program being implemented."

*Summary*. In summary, the Daviess Drug Court program is in the planning stages. One Judge has worked to plan the program. The program will be based on the *Key Components* and will have three program phases, which will take clients one to two years to complete.

The most compelling aspects of the Drug Court program are the immediate sanctions that clients will be given when the program rules are violated. Another compelling aspect of the Drug Court program will be the judicial involvement. The final compelling aspect of the Drug Court program is the client accountability. Clients will be required to be responsible for their actions. Respondents indicated that they believed the Drug Court program would be able to produce productive citizens.

In conclusion, the Drug Court Judge is dedicated to the program and the treatment of potential clients. There was support for the planned Daviess Drug Court program across all respondents surveyed. However, respondents such as defense, jail, probation and parole, treatment, and prosecution were tentative in naming specific strengths, benefits, weaknesses, and areas that need to be improved for the planned program. This hesitancy indicates that more information for those parties who will work closely with the Drug Court program may be helpful in facilitating a smoother program implementation.

## **Program Description and Background**

The motto for the Kentucky Drug Courts is "A chance...a change." Kentucky's Drug Courts are aligned with more than 200 Drug Courts across the United States. During Fiscal Year 1998, Daviess County had 1, 332 drug charges.<sup>1</sup>

The Daviess Drug Court program will serve Daviess County, and potentially, Henderson County. Currently, involvement solely in Daviess County is planned. Daviess County is located in the Western Coal Field region of the state.<sup>2</sup> It is the fifth most populous county, with an estimated population in 1998 of 87, 189.<sup>3</sup> In 1990, the county was 69.5% urban.<sup>4</sup>

The Daviess Drug Court program will be grounded in the Key Components described in the 1997 publication *Defining Drug Courts: The Key Components*. The overall mission of Drug Courts is to stop the abuse of alcohol and other drugs and related criminal activity. In exchange for successful completion of the treatment program, the court may dismiss the original charge, reduce or set aside a sentence, offer some lesser penalty, or offer a combination of these. Drug Courts transform the roles of both criminal justice practitioners and Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) treatment providers. The Judge is the central figure in a team effort that focuses on sobriety and accountability as primary goals. To ensure the primary goals are met, the Drug Courts Standards Committee developed some key components for all Drug Court programs. The key components as described in the 1997 *Defining Drug Courts: The Key Components* are described in the following table:

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Count of Drug and Non-Drug Offense Charges by County for Fiscal Year 1998. Department of Research and Statistics for Administrative Office of the Courts.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> http://www.uky.edu/KentuckyAtlas/21059.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> http://www.uky.edu/KentuckyAtlas/kentucky-counties.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> http://www.lrc.state.ky.us/other/econ/counties/DAVIESS/censoc.txt

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Defining Drug Courts: The Key Components (January 1997) U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Drug Courts Programs Office.

#### Table 1. Key Components

- 1. Drug Courts integrate alcohol and other drug treatment services with justice system case processing.
- 2. Using a non-adversarial approach, prosecution and defense counsel promote public safety while protecting participants' due process rights.
- 3. Eligible participants are identified early and promptly placed in the Drug Court program.
- 4. Drug Courts provide access to a continuum of alcohol, drug, and other related treatment and rehabilitation services.
- 5. Abstinence is monitored by frequent alcohol and other drug testing.
- 6. A coordinated strategy governs Drug Court responses to participants' compliance.
- 7. Ongoing judicial interaction with each Drug Court participant is essential.
- 8. Monitoring and evaluation measure the achievement of program goals and gage effectiveness.
- 9. Continuing interdisciplinary education promotes effective Drug Court planning, implementation, and operations.
- 10. Forging partnerships among Drug Courts, public agencies, and community-based organizations generates local support and enhances Drug Court effectiveness.

Judge Thomas Castlen has worked to plan the Daviess Drug Court program. Judge Castlen has been on the bench since 1995. He will work with the Daviess Drug Court program for an indefinite period of time. Judge Garland Howard has agreed to work with the Daviess Drug Court program, but will be retiring at the end of 1999 and future involvement by other Circuit Court Judges is undetermined.

The Daviess Drug Court program has not been granted funding to date, however the Judge would like to implement a pilot program within the next few months. The formal program will begin once funding has been made available to the program. Clients will meet with staff in the Drug Court Office, which will most likely be located in the State Office Building. Clients will attend treatment sessions at Green River Area Development and Comprehensive Care.

#### **Program Goals**

The Daviess Drug Court program has the following primary goals: (1) Reduce recidivism, (2) Make productive citizens, and (3) Assess each individual and make goals for each client. In addition to the primary goals, the Daviess Drug Court program will report to the Administrative Office of the Courts on the following goals and goal measures:

Table 2. Program Goals and Measures

	PROGRAM GOALS	S MEASURES FOR GOAL ACHIEVEMENT	
1.	Promote abstinence	Drug free babies; clean urines; number of meetings attend (AA/NA,	
		treatment groups, education, case specialist meetings)	
2.	Decrease recidivism	# Re-arrests while in program and after graduation (tracked with	
		Courtnet, a daily jail list, and arraignments are monitored daily as well)	
3.	Community safety	Lower community drug arrests; lower property crime	
4.	Increase life skills	Court approved housing; court approved employment; education level	
		of clients; gaining/keeping custody of children	
5.	Community awareness	# Media contacts; national recognition; additional funding; requests to	
		speak; more referrals	
6.	Expand and maintain	Expanding and maintaining the number of agencies the Drug Court	
	resource base	program can refer clients to or who work with the Drug Court program	

*Client Goals*. The following overall client program goals are printed in the client handbook.

Table 3. Client Goals

	sole 5. Cheft Gould
1.	To learn to be drug free.
2.	To learn better ways of coping with life.
3.	To adjust to a drug-free lifestyle.
4.	To develop a non-criminal pattern of living.
5.	To enhance employment skills through vocational training and educational pursuits.
6.	To attend NA/AA and other support groups.
7.	To increase social skills.
8.	To enhance self-esteem and self-motivation.
9.	To learn the warning signs of relapse and develop a relapse prevention plan.

#### Recruitment and Screening

Drug Court clients will all be volunteers. Any defendant identified as an Alcohol or Other Drug offender can be assessed and advised of the benefits of the Drug Court program. Initially, clients will be on a probation track, although a diversion track is planned to be used for first or second time offenders.

Eligibility. Eligibility for the Drug Court program will be based on certain inclusionary and exclusionary criteria. Defendants who have offended as a result of alcohol or other drug influence will be eligible for the program. No violent offenders will be accepted into the Daviess Drug Court program. Drug "profiteers" will also not be accepted into the program. These offenders are those who traffic in drugs for the money and are not simply transporting drugs. Ideally, the Judge would like to accept every defendant eligible for the Drug Court program. However, if an individual is able to afford treatment costs, the Judge will refer him or her to probation and have the

individual pay for his or her own treatment. Offenders who would not be able to afford treatment on their own would be accepted into the Drug Court program.

Assessments will be completed at the Daviess County Jail within 48 hours of referral by the Drug Court Judge. Assessments will be conducted by the Drug Court staff members using the Addiction Severity Index (ASI) and other assessment tolls, including the Michigan Alcoholism Screen Test (MAST). Drug testing will be done at the time of assessment screening.

#### Capacity

Clients will enter the Daviess Drug Court program as soon as they are eligible for entry. The Judge estimates that 50 spaces will be available.

*Timing*. It will take approximately one week between eligibility and referral by the Drug Court Judge for entrance into the program. Once clients have entered the program, an Individual Program Plan (IPP) will be developed with the Drug Court staff and community treatment providers within a few weeks. Within one month, a client will have had contact with each of the treatment and court aspects of the program.

# **Treatment Programming**

Assessment of Needs. Potential clients must undergo an ASI assessment to establish drug dependency and a history of drug use. The ASI<sup>6</sup> is a multidimensional instrument used to diagnose, evaluate, and assess change in a client's drug abuse patterns. It identifies personal and family background, current status, and problems in six domains including medical status, employment/support status, drug/alcohol use, legal status, family/social relationships, and psychiatric status. The ASI is a computerized assessment tool based upon the concept that successful treatment of drug offenders must address problems which may have contributed to their drug dependency. It takes approximately forty-five minutes to administer. The ASI is used to determine program eligibility and to determine client needs. Additional screening tools such as the he Michigan Alcoholism Screen Test (MAST) may be administered.

*Orientation*. Clients will undergo an orientation. Initially, orientation sessions will be conducted in groups of four or five clients. As the program progresses, orientations will be conducted on an individual basis as clients enter the program on their own.

*Program Documentation*. Each client will receive a participant handbook. This handbook describes the program, the expected goals for each client, costs and payments, participant rules, program requirements, individual, group and family counseling, chemical dependency education, support groups, incarceration, employment, the

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> NIDA (1995). "Assessing Client Need Using the ASI: A Handbook for Program Administrators." U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Service, National Institutes of Health. NIH Publication No. 95-3619.

vocational/job training component, vocational rehabilitation, random drug screens, discharge, graduation, and program hours. (See Appendix C for a copy of the Program Handbook.)

Individual Program Plans (IPP). Each client will receive an individualized treatment plan. The client and program coordinator will develop a client's Individual Program Plan (IPP). The MAST may also be used to develop a client's IPP. Plans will be reviewed at each court session and modified as needed. There will be some standardization for all plans based on the resources and services that will be available to Drug Court clients. However, plans may also be individualized by (1) Vocational Rehabilitation, (2) Learning disabilities, (3) Family problems, (4) Medical problems, (5) Anger management, (6) Alcoholism, (7) Association problems, and (8) History of physical or sexual abuse. Some of the group sessions will be specifically oriented towards narcotic offenders or alcohol offenders.

The Daviess Drug Court program will have three program phases that will take approximately one year to complete. Phase I will take between four to six weeks to complete. Phase II will take an average of eight months to complete and Phase III can be completed in three months. As clients progress through the phases, the number of drug screens required will decrease, as will the level of supervision by Drug Court staff. Clients will also have more responsibility and independence as they go through the phases.

*Drug Court Sessions*. Drug Court clients will be seen on a separate calendar. Currently, there is no set format planned for Drug Court sessions. However, around twelve clients will be seen at each session.

*Program Rules*. Participants also will have specific rules they will be required to follow while participating in the Drug Court program. These rules include:

- 1. Appropriate clothing is expected at all times. Sunglasses are not allowed to be worn inside the Drug Court Center or Court unless approved. Clothing bearing drug or alcohol-related themes, or promoting or advertising alcohol or drug use is not allowed. No gang colors or gang clothing can be worn.
- 2. Attendance at all scheduled group, individual, and family counseling sessions, educational sessions and Court sessions is mandatory, unless prior approval is obtained. The client must arrive on time and not leave until the meeting is over. If the client is late, they are not allowed to attend the session and may be considered absent.
- 3. The following actions are not tolerated by clients while they are in the Drug Court program: violence or threats of any kind; use and/or possession of drugs and/or alcohol; belligerent behavior; possession of any type of weapon; inappropriate sexual behavior or harassment.

- 4. No loitering of family and/or friends is allowed on the premises. If they provide transportation for the client, they are expected to drop them off and pick them up at the end of the session.
- 5. Clients are not allowed to carry beepers or cellular phones to Court or group sessions.
- 6. All participants must notify staff of any arrest or court obligations.
- 7. The program must comply with KRS 620.030 regarding the reporting of cases of abuse or neglect of minors. The program must also comply with KRS 209.030 regarding the reporting of cases of abuse and neglect of adults. Federal law and regulations do not protect any information about suspected child abuse or neglect from being reported under State law to appropriate State or local authorities.
- 8. Clients are expected to maintain appropriate behavior at all times during Drug Court sessions and while in the courthouse. The Judge will be addressed with respect. Unless prior approval is given clients are expected to remain for the entire proceeding, refrain from talking while seated, and show support and encouragement to fellow participants by applause, but only during appropriate times.
- 9. Use of prescription medications are monitored and verified by a physician and must be approved.

In addition, transportation for the Drug Court clients may be provided through Vocational Rehabilitation vouchers. Matters of liability may restrict the availability of transportation by Drug Court staff and community treatment providers. Also, clients will be required to find their own childcare for Drug Court sessions.

*Employment*. Drug Court clients will be required to maintain court-approved employment throughout the program. Employment will be assessed through unscheduled visits to the client's employer. If a client needs help finding a job, the Drug Court case specialists and the treatment coordinator will assist the client. The Drug Court program will try to develop contacts with employers such as factories and construction companies in Owensboro where clients can potentially find employment. Clients who do not maintain employment will be in noncompliance with the Drug Court program rules. Sanctions for not maintaining employment will vary; clients may have heightened contact with Drug Court staff, increased urine tests, community service, time in jail, or be demoted one phase.

Some barriers are expected with potential employers. The Daviess Drug Court program will conduct a public education project and speak with civic groups on an individual basis to counter any issues that may arise from public misunderstanding of the program.

Housing. Drug Court clients will be required to reside in court-approved housing throughout the program. Housing will be monitored through unscheduled visits to assess the fitness of the housing structure and the living environment. Drug Court staff members will assist clients in finding appropriate housing. The Daviess Drug Court program will use the Public Housing Authority, local churches, and potentially local shelters such as the Daniel Pitino Center and the Boulware Center to help clients find appropriate housing. If clients do not maintain approved housing, they may be removed from the program.

#### **Treatment Modalities**

The Daviess Drug Court program will use a number of different treatment facilities to provide treatment for Drug Court clients. Comprehensive Care, Owensboro Mercy Health System, and State Alcohol Rehabilitation will all provide treatment services to Drug Court clients.

Other Program Components. In addition to traditional treatment provided by the various alcohol and other drug treatment facilities, there will be several aspects of the Daviess Drug Court program that make the program unique: community service, mentoring, book reports, and journals.

**Community service** will be a mandatory component of the Daviess Drug Court program. Community service may be used as a sanction, but will also be a requirement for each client. The Drug Court Judge does not want a negative stigma attached to community service. The agencies with which Drug Court clients will work will vary.

**Mentoring** will be another component of the Daviess Drug Court program. The peer mentoring program will be informal. This mentoring will be used as an example of achievable success, for encouragement, and to provide help for other clients. Clients will also be required to obtain and maintain contact with an AA/NA sponsor.

**Book reports** will be used in Phase III to develop a sense of pride and accomplishment. Clients in Phase II will be required to read something every week. Reading material will depend upon the level of reading ability.

Clients will write daily **journals**. These journals will provide the Drug Court a document of personal progress and will provide clients with a tool to chart their own progress.

Treatment Service Delivery. Quality control checks of treatment service delivery will be made by the Drug Court Judge and the Drug Court Treatment Coordinator. Checks will be made, particularly within the first year. However, it has not yet been determined with what frequency the checks will be made. Value judgements made by community reputation and feedback from clients. A systematic review of medical insurance coverage and medical benefits for Drug Court clients may also be made.

#### Relapse Patterns

The Drug Court Judge believes that clients will be most likely to relapse during Phase I. Situations that may trigger relapse will include major life events, seeing old friends and old places, a crisis in the family, and any extreme situation.

#### **Client Monitoring**

Clients will be monitored by the Judge, the Drug Court program staff, and by the independent treatment facilities through urine drug screens, at court sessions, and in individual and group sessions.

*Urine Drug Testing*. One of the most important methods by which clients will be monitored is through urine drug testing. Drug testing will be done frequently and randomly. The first drug test will be conducted during the first week of a client's entrance into the Drug Court program. It has not yet been determined where the urine drug testing will be conducted.

Urine screens will be used to test for alcohol, marijuana, cocaine, Phencyclidine (PCP), and amphetamines. Other drugs will be tested for if the need arises. During Phase I, clients will be tested two to five times per week. During Phase II and III, clients will be tested at least once per week. All tests will be done randomly.

Sanctions and Rewards. Sanctions will be applied on a case-by-case basis. However, sanctions will be similar. Clients will be informed that particular violations draw particular sanctions. If different sanctions are used for similar acts of non-compliance, the Judge will explain his reasoning for the difference in sanctions. The Judge will rely on case specialists for input into sanctions.

Failure to comply with program requirements, dirty urine screens, failure to maintain employment, failure to attend counseling sessions, and failure to complete assignments will result in the imposition of sanctions. Sanctions will range from a warning to program dismissal. Other sanctions will include criticism in front of peers, extension of length of time in phase, phase demotion, and jail time of up to two weeks. Community service will be used sparingly as a sanction.

Clients will be rewarded for: getting a job, promotion or raise; helping others, clients staying clean for a period of time; attending regular sessions, and completing assignments. Rewards will include Judge praise, reducing the number of urine tests, phase promotion, reduction of contact with program components, and trinkets (such as key chains, ball caps, movie passes, etc.). Rewards will be flexible.

*Graduation*. The minimum time requirement for graduation will be 12 months. In addition, clients will be required to have stable living conditions, stable employment, have completed community service, have mentored another client, have had clean urine

screens for an undetermined period of time, and have made a significant amount of fee payments.

Graduations will occur several times each year. There will be certificates for each client, a speaker, and a great deal of praise for the graduates. The family and friends of clients will be allowed to attend. Clients may also receive some token of completion such as a tee shirt

*Program Removal.* Clients will be removed from the Daviess Drug Court program for a failure to participate, for any new charges filed, for repeated positive urine screens, for a lack of commitment to the program, for repeated failure to comply with court directions, and for absconding. Clients will be notified either in court or by an arresting officer. Once clients have been removed from the Drug Court program, criminal proceedings will be reinstated or clients will be committed to custody if the client was on a probation track.

#### Aftercare

Since the Daviess Drug Court program has yet to be implemented, plans for an aftercare program have not yet been made. If an aftercare program is to be implemented, it would be done on an informal basis and clients would report back at least once a year.

#### Information Capabilities and Reporting

Regular reports about Drug Court clients will be made. The case specialist will make oral and written reports each week to the Drug Court Judge. The Daviess Drug Court program will be able to produce client termination/transfer reports simultaneously with occurrence and expenditure reports as needed. Monthly and quarterly reports will also be made to the Administrative Office of the Courts. Reports will be presented in scorecard format.

Monthly aggregate reports will include the number of diversion track candidates eligible in Category I and II, number assessed, number of initial drug screens, number of candidates eligible, and number accepted. For probation, the number of candidates referred, number of candidates assessed, number of eligible candidates, and the number transferred will be recorded. Overall statistics will be reported for the Drug Court program including: total number of candidates accepted, number of participants moving to each phases, number of court sessions, number of participants identified as using based on urine screens, number of individual sessions, number of groups session, number of family/support session, number of participants referred to outside agencies, employment and educational status of clients, number of employment and housing verifications, amount paid toward court obligations, number of sanctions, number of participants rearrested for new charges, number of terminations, and total number of active participants in the preceding month. Quarterly and yearly reports will summarize monthly statistics and chart the progress toward outlined objectives and performance indicators.

The Daviess Drug Court will work with other Drug Courts in the state through client referrals and networking. The Daviess Drug Court may also apply for an implementation grant with Henderson County.

#### **Funding**

The Daviess Drug Court program will be funded through a federal Byrne grant. The Daviess Drug Court may also apply for an Office of Justice Programs Drug Court Program Office implementation grant with Henderson County. Once the grant expires, the program will rely on state and local resources to continue the funding. Drug Court clients who are deemed financially able to will pay fees for the Drug Court program. However, fees may be worked off or excused. Clients will also be required to pay all debts within their means, such as child support, restitution, legal fees, medical fees, and victim restitution.

Clients who are financially able will pay for treatment and urinalysis costs. The Drug Court program will work with treatment providers and rely on the federal grants for payment. Some cost sharing will be done between the Drug Court program and the jail and probation and parole for urine testing. The Daviess Drug Court will utilize third party payment such as Medicaid, medical insurance, private insurance, and employer insurance. The average cost of a drug screen for the current fiscal year is \$20.

#### **Program Decision Making**

There are many entities that will contribute to decisions about the Drug court program. The program will be a part of the Administrative Office of the Courts Drug Courts Division. The Drug Court Judge, Drug Court staff, the prosecution, and the defense will all contribute to decision-making. Local government will also contribute impart to decision-making. Changes to the program will be documented in the written policies and procedures manual with approval from the Drug Court Judge.

#### Evaluation

The Daviess Drug Court program will collect information from clients at graduation for an evaluation. The statistical data kept will include: number of relapses, percentage of clean urinalysis, frequency of new arrests, improved coordination of justice system and social services, better use of judicial time, regaining custody, reduction in probation violation caseloads, recidivism, retention in program/treatment, time in custody, participant progress in education development, employment status, stable living conditions, reunified families, and birth of drug free babies. It is hoped that long term tracking of graduates and dropouts can be accomplished. The Daviess Drug Court program hopes to develop a reliable method for tracking graduates and dropouts.

# **Program Strengths**

The strengths of the Daviess Drug Court program mentioned by the Drug Court Judge include the following: (1) Plan is grounded in the Key Components, (2) Active involvement of the Judge, (3) Coordination of services in the community, and (4) Benefit to families.

### Advice to Other Drug Courts

The Drug Court Judge recommended that new Drug Court programs contact as many key community leaders as possible, especially treatment providers and law enforcement officials, and to get them involved with the Drug Court program early on.

#### **Staff Characteristics**

Because the Daviess Drug Court program has yet to be implemented, no staff has been hired to date. The Daviess Drug Court will employ a full-time treatment coordinator and two part-time case specialists. The case specialists will work with treatment providers, supervise clients, and document client progress. The treatment coordinator will be responsible for agency coordination, information management, case management, assessments, and program monitoring. All staff will be responsible for client monitoring, program reviews, and recommending modifications. The Drug Court Judge and staff will be responsible for assessing the success of the program.

*Staff Training*. The Daviess Drug Court Judge wants to hire staff who is already trained in substance abuse treatment. Staff will also attend various training sessions conducted by the National Association of Drug Court Professionals and various state agencies.

Judge Training. Judge Castlen, the Daviess Drug Court Judge, has been on the bench since 1995 and was the Commonwealth Attorney for 10 years prior to 1995. He has attended seven Drug Court training sessions, including a five-day comprehensive judicial training program. The Judge intends to be committed to the Daviess Drug Court program, "as long as it takes."

*Volunteers*. The Drug Court Judge hopes to use volunteers in a number of ways. Volunteers will be used to teach remedial reading, home skills, childcare skills, and various other duties.

*Interns*. Interns may be used in the Daviess Drug Court program. However, the Judge currently does not have any plans for the role of interns in the Daviess Drug Court during the planning phase.

*Others*. The Drug Court Judge may utilize local church pastors in Drug Court. This will be explored closer to implementation of the program.

The Daviess Drug Court will work with other Drug Courts in the state, through client referrals and networking. The Daviess Drug Court may also apply for an implementation grant with Henderson County. Creating a regional Drug Court program may prove a better use of resources.

# **Community Organizations**

Community organizations will be used by the Drug Court program for resource support. These organizations will provide treatment, employment opportunities, educational and vocational training, AA/NA meetings, and encouragement to the Drug Court program. The Drug Court Judge and staff will speak at luncheons and to various civic groups to facilitate community involvement in the Daviess Drug Court program. The following table presents community organizations that will be involved with the Daviess Drug Court program.

Table 4. Community Linkages

AGENCY			
Local AA			
Local NA			
Comprehensive Care			
Adult Education Program sponsored by Parks Department			
Health Department			
Chamber of Commerce			
Medical service providers			
Volunteer Center			
Community College			
Technical School			
Local Employers			
Skills, Inc.			
Vocational Rehabilitation			
Faith Communities			
Local Housing Agencies			

#### **Client Characteristics**

Because the Daviess Drug Court has not yet been implemented, no clients are a part of the program. When the program does begin, non-violent defendants who have offended as a result of alcohol or other drug influence will be a part of the program.

The Judge was unable to predict the client characteristics. However, the Judge believed that most clients will be between the ages of 18 and 40. He also believed that at least 50% of clients will have been in some form of drug and/or alcohol treatment prior to entering the Drug Court program.

In addition to their drug charges, the Judge predicts that a great deal of clients will also have the following charges: theft/property offenses, prescription drug fraud, check/credit card forgeries, drug possession, prostitution, and parole/probation violations. The expected primary drugs of choice will include methamphetamines and cocaine. Clients may also have a history of alcohol abuse.

# **Perceptions**

#### <u>Defense Perceptions</u>

Defense attorneys responded to surveys regarding the planned Daviess Drug Court. The defense attorneys do not have any staff that will be specifically devoted to the Drug Court program. Each attorney will work with the Drug Court program as well as other programs.

Attorneys will be "required to have a working knowledge of the Drug Court's client qualifications, rehabilitation and treatment plans, required Court compliance, enforcement procedures, and final disposition once compliance has occurred".

Defense attorneys expect the Daviess Drug Court to impact their policies and procedures. Clients who qualify for the Drug Court program will be more closely monitored. Clients who are eligible for the Drug Court program will have to be identified immediately after they are charged. "A qualified candidate is in need of immediate treatment and rehabilitation."

Attorneys expect to have greater involvement with community organizations as a result of the Drug Court program. "Treatment rehabilitation for criminally charged clients will require complete cooperation with community groups and especially understanding of victim advocate groups; such groups demand punishment."

Defense attorneys listed the following as important tools for evaluation of the program: (1) Individual case review with statistical reports on those persons entering the Drug Court program, (2) Successful completion, and (3) "Final evaluation by participants as to whether or not said program was effective in rehabilitation and treatment."

Defense attorneys felt that the following aspects of the Drug Court program are very important: drug treatment, individualized treatment/program plans, drug testing, individual counseling, and family counseling. Other components of the program that defense attorneys find to be important include: continuous review of client progress, court sessions, journal assignments, book report assignments, the employment requirement, the fee payment requirement, mentoring, community service, health referrals, drug education, sanctions for noncompliance, rewards for compliance, the housing requirement, and the physical health component.

The main reasons that defense attorneys believe that clients would enter the Daviess Drug Court program would be (1) "To prevent a criminal felony conviction and criminal punishment associated therewith," and (2) To get treatment and help.

The reasons defense attorneys believe that clients would remain in the Drug Court program would be (1) "The threat of reinstating criminal charges with resulting criminal penalties with possible conviction," and (2) That the clients would realize the benefits of treatment.

Defense attorneys agreed that the Daviess Drug Court will impact the criminal justice system in the following ways: (1) Drug Court will encourage greater coordination with other justice agencies, (2) Drug Court will promote new relationships with the justice system and other agencies in the community, (3) Drug Court will encourage greater coordination with community groups, (4) Drug Court will provide a more effective response to substance abusers, (5) Drug Court will provide law enforcement with an additional tool to enforce a no tolerance policy, (5) Drug Court will increase the education and awareness of attorneys about substance abuse and its impact on clients, and (6) Drug Court will reduce the number of substance dependent arrestees.

Defense attorneys believed that the Drug Court program will provide a variety of savings in the following areas: (1) Time saved in terms of case preparation, (2) Savings in jury costs, and (3) Reduced number of re-arrests. Other expected savings include the elimination of the costs of incarceration for those clients in the Drug Court program.

Expected costs as a result of the program would include costs of time as well as money. The attorneys from the Department of Public Advocacy "will be required to be in court for the Drug Court sessions, thus increasing [their] workload." There would be a probable need for additional attorneys. Cost to the clients would include the cost of their treatment. "There would also be the expense of enforcement and monitoring of clients involved in the program."

Problems or difficulties that the defense attorneys expect as a result of the Drug Court program include "enforcement and Court involvement in the program to monitor the progress of the clients enrolled" as well as the costs of time and money. In order to overcome some of these problems, "there should be adequate staff of court personnel monitored through Probation and Parole for the enforcement and monitoring, to include drug testing and to assure necessary contact with the Circuit Court Judge."

Defense attorneys believed that the significant benefits of the Drug Court program would be (1) The Drug Court program will provide a drug intervention treatment plan for the clients with criminal charges resulting from drug addiction, (2) The Drug Court program will offer alternative sentencing without confinement, and (3) The rehabilitation service will be directly maintained by the Circuit Court Judge."

Defense attorneys listed the strengths of the Drug Court program as: (1) For the client to prevent criminal conviction by the treatment and rehabilitation, (2) Rehabilitation and treatment are integrated into the criminal justice system by choice, and (3) The Judge and Court system provide assistance in rehabilitation.

Overall, defense attorneys were hesitant in answering survey questions regarding potential areas of improvements and problems the Drug Court program, or defense offices, may incur because the program is still in the planning stages.

Further comments included: "I believe that the Drug Court program... would be excellent for the community and for those individuals that suffer from alcohol and drug addiction."

#### Jail Perceptions

Jail representatives filled out surveys concerning the planned Daviess Drug Court program. No jail staff will be solely dedicated to the Drug Court program.

Representatives expected that the Drug Court program would have no impact on staff orientation and/or training programs, jail policies and procedures, or the jail's relationship with community groups.

Jail representatives felt that the number of inmates incarcerated for drug and alcohol related charges and the recidivism rate of Drug Court clients would be important in evaluating the Daviess Drug Court program.

Jail representatives felt that the Daviess Drug Court program will provide law enforcement with an additional tool to enforce a no tolerance policy. However, they did not believe that the Drug Court would permit officers to be available for other cases, provide a more effective response to arrests of substance abusers, or increase education and awareness of officers about substance abuse and its impact on clients.

Representatives of the jail expect to see savings in jury costs and fewer inmates to process and care for as a result of the Drug Court program. However, they do not expect a savings of fewer court appearances. Also, "there may be more prisoners spending time on court orders at the county's expense and less time spent as a class 'D' prisoner with state reimbursement."

Jail representatives expect fewer inmates as a result of the Drug Court program and this decrease will likely result in lower stress for the jail staff and the ability to better cope with other inmates.

Jail representatives were hesitant in making comments regarding areas of improvement and strengths, due to the fact that the Daviess Drug program is still in the planning phase.

Other comments made by both of the jail representatives included: "Jails should be reimbursed by the state for all the days an inmate is incarcerated due to Drug Court as they would be if sentenced by the [regular] court."

#### Police Perceptions

The Daviess County Police responded to the survey regarding the planned Daviess Drug Court program. It was indicated that no law enforcement staff will be solely dedicated to Drug Court; however, a detective will be assigned as a liaison to Drug Court in addition to his/her regular duties.

The police believed the Drug Court program will have an impact on officer/staff orientation and /or training programs because Drug Court is an alternative to standard procedures. It is expected that the Drug Court will have no impact on arrest policies and procedures.

The police expect the Drug Court program to impact the relationship between the police department and community groups. The police representative commented, "Hopefully, interaction with the community, as well as successful rehabilitation of defendants, will improve such relationships.

The police indicated conferring with law enforcement and family, would be necessary to evaluate the effectiveness of the Drug Court program, about the behavior of participants and graduates.

The police noted the Drug Court program will encourage greater coordination with other justice agencies, promote new relationships with the justice system, and other agencies in the community, provide a more effective response to arrests of substance abusers, and provide law enforcement with an additional tool to enforce a no tolerance policy, increase education and awareness of officers about substance abuse and its impact on clients, reduce the number of substance dependent detainees, and result in more jail space for pre-trial defendants and sentenced defendants. The program is also expected to help save time and money by and reducing the number of re-arrests and the amount of jury costs. The representative did not believe there would be a reduction in the amount of time spent in court appearances.

The police expect that the Drug Court program will have an impact on the police department by broadening the options for dealing with offenders. Further, the representative commented, "As always, any new program, especially one that may be misconstrued as 'offender friendly,' will meet resistance from law enforcement. To overcome these problems, the representative suggested full exposure to Drug Court procedures and results would help. However, it was noted that long-term results would be given the most credibility.

Significant benefits of the Drug Court program listed by the police included: (1) Better relationship with the public, (2) Presents another option for offender adjudication, and (3) Exposes officers to substance abuse treatment. Strengths of the Drug Court program listed were (1) Viable alternative for substance-abusing offenders, (2) Increase the court and law enforcement's effectiveness in the community, and (3) Reduce recidivism.

The police indicated that the Drug Court program could improve by: (1) Assuring all agencies and personnel of input and access, and (2) Making the program more conducive to jurisdictions attempting to establish a Drug Court (i.e. less evaluation, more efficiency in participation by law enforcement).

#### **Probation and Parole Perceptions**

Representatives from the probation and parole office were surveyed regarding the planned Daviess Drug Court program. It was indicated that one staff member would be solely dedicated to the Drug Court program.

The representatives from the Office of Probation and Parole expect that the Drug Court program will have an impact on officer/staff orientation and/or training programs. The probation and parole officers must be aware of procedures pertaining to Drug Court.

It also stated that the Drug Court program may impact arrest/jail policies and procedures through cost of housing and the location of housing. It was expected that the Drug Court program would impact the agency's relationship with community groups through better public relations and awareness of the Drug Court program, as well as enhancing the general understanding of the correction system.

To evaluate the effectiveness of Drug Court, the one representative suggested measuring the cost of supervision versus incarceration.

Probation and parole representatives agree that the Daviess Drug Court will: (1) Encourage greater coordination with other justice agencies, (2) Promoted new relationships with the justice system and other agencies in the community, (3) Permit officers to be available for other cases, (4) Increase education and awareness of officers about substance abuse and its impact on clients, (5) Result in more jail space for pre-trial defendants, and (6) Result in more space for sentenced defendants.

Probation and parole representatives indicate that the Drug Court program will provide savings in police and corrections overtime. It was believed that the Drug Court program would also offer savings in jury costs as well as reduce the number of re-arrests. Overall, the Office of Probation and Parole does not yet foresee any additional costs as a result of the Drug Court program.

There are some other ways the Drug Court may impact the probation and parole office. It was indicated that an expectation of less felony probation cases. However, it was also noted that officers may be required to work additional hours or adjust work schedules.

The probation and parole representatives listed savings resulting from the Drug Court program to be less cost for incarceration and more time available for other duties. Expected benefits of the Drug Court program listed were: (1) Reduction in recidivism, (2) Cost effectiveness, (3) The program frees up some probation and parole officer time, (3) Additional supervision for felony offenders, (4) Better familial relationships, (5) and Resource center. Strengths that were mentioned by probation and parole representatives included: (1) Intensive supervision, (2) Reduce cost to taxpayers, (3) Lower caseload, and (4) Program will be controlled by the Judge.

Overall, probation and parole representative was hesitant in making comments regarding areas of improvement as well as problem areas due to the fact that the Daviess Drug program is still in the planning phase.

Comments made about the Daviess Drug Court program included the following: "I truly believe that there is a need for this area. Putting people in prison for the use of illegal drugs is not always the answer. The Drug Court is an alternative."

#### <u>Prosecution Perceptions</u>

Representatives from the Commonwealth's Attorney's office completed surveys regarding the planned Daviess Drug Court. One staff member will be solely dedicated to the Daviess Drug Court program.

The Daviess Drug Court program will have an impact on attorney/staff orientation and training. Attorneys will be required to attend specialized training on Drug Court operations. Also, "previous experience with treating or counseling addicts would be a plus."

The Drug Court program will also impact the policies and procedures of the Commonwealth's Attorney's office. "Addicts will be given leniency in sentencing but positive orientation for wellness. Our procedures will be designed toward wellness."

The relationship between the Commonwealth's Attorney and community groups will be affected by the prosecutors' involvement with the Drug Court program. Prosecutors expect most of the community will respond positively to the interaction of the Drug Court program and the Commonwealth's Attorney. However, some community groups may initially not support treatment rather than incarceration and will watch closely for any failures in the program.

Prosecutors believe that the following would be important to evaluate the effectiveness of the Drug Court program: (1) Rate of recidivism, (2) Increase or decrease of new drug arrests over a long period of time, (3) Increase or decrease of incarceration, (4) Real success of a significant number of enrollees. "Also, how to weed out abusers who just use the system, i.e. token advances, token cooperation."

Prosecutors agreed that the Drug Court program will encourage greater coordination with other justice agencies, will promote new relationships with the justice system and other agencies in the community, will encourage greater coordination with community groups, will provide a more effective response to substance abusers, will increase education and awareness of attorneys about substance abuse and its impact on clients, and will reduce the number of substance abuse detainees. Prosecutors disagreed about whether the Drug Court will provide law enforcement with an additional tool to enforce a no tolerance policy. Prosecutors did not believe that the Drug Court program will promote more efficient use of office resources.

Prosecutors expect the following savings as a result of the Drug Court program: (1)Time saved in terms of case preparation, (2) Savings in police overtime, and (3) Savings in jury costs. Prosecutors disagreed about whether the Drug Court program would save the amount of time spent in court appearances.

The prosecutors expect additional costs as a result of the Drug Court program. The Commonwealth's Attorney's office would possibly need to hire a "new attorney to

handle Drug Court [cases] if it is held at night, or other attorneys handling the Drug Court prosecutors regular daytime duties."

Another way the Drug Court program is expected to impact the Commonwealth's Attorney's office is in the matter of time. The prosecutors expect to spend more time with counselors and with the Court.

Difficulties or problems for the Commonwealth's Attorney's office as a result of the Drug Court program will include being understaffed and having to attend specialized trainings. More staff may be hired to alleviate the problem of understaffing.

Prosecutors see the significant benefits of the Drug Court program as the following: (1) Reduced recidivism, (2) Community awareness and involvement, (3) Demonstrable compassion, and (4) Fewer felony drug prosecutions.

Prosecutors listed the strengths of the Daviess Drug Court program as being: (1) Community awareness and involvement, (2) Reduced incarceration costs, and (3) "Maybe someone's life will be different and their family saved." However, one prosecution representative was hesitant in listing strengths of the Drug Court program because, "it does not yet exist". Additionally, prosecutors did not include any possible areas of improvement for the Drug Court program due to the fact that the program is still in the planning phase.

#### **Treatment Perceptions**

One treatment facility, River Valley Behavioral Health, was surveyed regarding the Daviess Drug Court program. The treatment facility serves seven counties: Daviess, Henderson, Hancock, Ohio, McLean, Webster, and Union. River Valley Behavioral Health is a non-profit, private treatment organization. The treatment representative surveyed, indicated no staff would be specifically devoted to the Drug Court program clients. A number of staff members conduct individual and group counseling sessions. Several different staff members may see Drug Court clients.

The treatment representatives indicated that the Drug Court program has had impact on orientation and/or training programs. All treatment and education providers will be educated about the Drug Court program in order to ensure good coordination of services. The Drug Court program is not expected to have any impact on the treatment facility's policies and procedures.

The treatment facility will coordinate their services with the Drug Court staff by initially having a joint meeting with Drug Court staff and treatment staff, to introduce and discuss the program. The treatment representative indicated that treatment staff would work with Drug Court staff to develop a procedure for communicating/reporting status of clients.

The treatment facility will use the MAST (Michigan Alcoholism Screen Test) and the DAST (Drug Abuse Screening Test) Clinical Interview to assess Drug Court clients at intake. These instruments are used for risk assessment and DSM-IV diagnosis.

The treatment representative indicated that clients most likely will have special needs and/or special populations. Pregnant women and women with dependent children, are expected as well as IV drug users, HIV positive clients, and minorities. These special needs will be addressed through individualized treatment planning and gender specific group therapy sessions.

Transportation is provided by the treatment facility for pregnant women and women with dependent children. Clients are provided with bus tokens or cab fare. The treatment representative indicated childcare services will be provided for Drug Court clients while attending treatment sessions. Clients may bring their children with them to treatment sessions and postpartum clients will be allowed to bring their infant children to treatment sessions.

Services provided specifically for Drug Court clients include outpatient individual, group, and family counseling; education, residential, and aftercare. The treatment representative indicated aftercare groups may be offered on a weekly basis.

The treatment representative indicated that between 20 and 30 percent of the Drug Court clients that they will treat are expected to have had problems with depression. Approximately 25 percent are expected to have been bipolar, 20 percent may have an

anxiety disorder, five percent may have had some form of psychosis, and 70 to 75 percent are expected to have antisocial personality disorder. Drug Court clients may receive prescription medication if referred to a psychiatrist. The treatment facility has the ability to provide specialized treatment services to Drug Court clients who have mental health needs. The treatment representative indicated that the facility has developed special affiliations with mental health agencies that provide specialized treatment services to those Drug Court clients with mental health disorders. The listed agencies included the local hospital psychiatric treatment unit and the state mental health hospital.

The treatment representative listed alcohol, marijuana, and methamphetamines as the expected main substances of abuse for the Drug Court clients. Secondary substances listed included crack cocaine, prescription drugs (e.g. Valium, Xanax), and heroin. The treatment facility will not do drug testing independently of the Drug Court program. Any additional testing will be conducted by an independent laboratory at the clients' expense.

The treatment representative indicated that Drug Court client fee payment is yet to be decided. The treatment facility receives state and federal block grant money. It is assumed that the grant money will be supplemented by Drug Court client fees and/or by the Drug Court program grant money.

The treatment representative indicated that the frequency of reports about the Drug Court clients is not yet determined. However, reports are expected to be made to the Drug Court coordinator/case manager.

The treatment respondent indicated that additional costs may be incurred from an increase in referrals, resulting from the Drug Court program.

A significant benefit the treatment representative listed, as a result of the Drug Court program, was working as a community team. Strengths of the Drug Court program listed were: (1) Support client receives from the judge, (2) Specific requirements of each phase, and (3) Length of program and intensity of supervision.

The treatment representative expected a difficulty, resulting from the Drug Court program was the formation of a payment plan. If any other difficulties or problems arise, a representative of the treatment staff will confer directly with the Drug Court coordinator to discuss any issues that would need to be resolved.

Additional comments from the treatment representative were "I feel the program is excellent and provides a very positive way to support clients in their recovery. I am excited about being part of the planning process in our community and am looking forward to the program being implemented...I do assume that our agency will be providing some or many of the treatment services. However, all of that has not been decided on as a group."

#### **Conclusions**

In summary, the Daviess Drug Court program is in the planning stages. One Judge has worked to plan the program. The program will be based on the *Key Components* and will have three program phases, which will take clients one to two years to complete.

The most compelling aspects of the Drug Court program are the immediate sanctions that clients will be given when the program rules are violated. Another compelling aspect of the Drug Court program will be the judicial involvement. The final compelling aspect of the Drug Court program is the client accountability. Clients will be required to be responsible for their actions. Respondents indicated that they believed the Drug Court program would be able to produce productive citizens.

Respondents listed the following strengths of the planned Daviess Drug Court program:

- Prevent criminal conviction,
- Rehabilitation and treatment are integrated into the criminal justice system,
- Viable alternative for substance-abusing offenders,
- Increase the court and law enforcement's effectiveness in the community,
- Reduce recidivism,
- Intense supervision,
- Reduce cost to taxpayers,
- Lower caseload,
- Program will be controlled by the Judge,
- Community awareness and involvement,
- Reduced incarceration costs,
- Support client receives from the Judge,
- Specific requirements of each phase, and
- Length of the program.

Respondents listed the following potential difficulties with program implementation:

- Program costs,
- Resistance from law enforcement,
- Agencies being understaffed as a result of the Drug Court program,
- Having to attend multiple training sessions,
- Formation of a payment plan with treatment providers, and
- Enforcement and Court involvement in the program to monitor the progress of the clients enrolled.

Respondents mentioned that some of these problems may be alleviated through hiring more staff both for agencies working with the Drug Court program and for the Drug Court program itself.

The following were concluding responses by various respondents. Although these are concluding comments, they also are excellent summaries of what respondents think about the Drug Court program.

Defense attorneys stated, "I believe that the Drug Court program...would be excellent for the community and for those individuals that suffer from alcohol and drug addiction."

Jail staff stated, "Jails should be reimbursed by the state for all the days an inmate is incarcerated due to Drug Court as they would be if sentenced by the [regular] court."

Officers from the Office of Probation and Parole stated, "I truly believe that there is a need for this area. Putting people in prison for the use of illegal drugs is not always the answer. The Drug Court is an alternative."

Treatment representatives stated, "I feel the program is excellent and provides a very positive way to support clients in their recovery. I am excited about being part of the planning process in our community and am looking forward to the program being implemented."

In conclusion, the Drug Court Judge is dedicated to the program and the treatment of potential clients. There was support for the planned Daviess Drug Court program across all respondents surveyed. However, respondents such as defense, jail, probation and parole, treatment, and prosecution were tentative in naming specific strengths, benefits, weaknesses, and areas that need to be improved for the planned program. This hesitancy indicates that more information for those parties who will work closely with the Drug Court program may be helpful in facilitating a smoother program implementation.

#### **Process Evaluation Methodology**

In evaluating the effectiveness of programs like the Drug Court program, researchers have often relied on only the program outcomes such as termination and graduation rates and/or re-arrests to determine effectiveness. However, programs such as Drug Court are essentially long-term behavior modification programs that cannot be fully understood by looking solely at the final program outcomes. To better understand how and why a program like Drug Court is effective, an analysis of how the program was conceptualized, implemented, and revised is needed. A process evaluation, in contrast to an examination of program outcome only, can provide a clearer and more comprehensive picture of how Drug Court impacts those involved in the Drug Court process (e.g., prosecutors, Judges, staff, and clients).

Specifically, a process evaluation provides information about program aspects that lead to desirable or undesirable outcomes. Because changes to the original program design may affect the program outcomes, a process evaluation can be an important tool in helping prosecutors, Judges, staff, defendants, and defense council to better understand and improve the Drug Court process. In addition, a process evaluation may help to reveal strategies that are most effective for achieving desirable outcomes and may expose those areas that are less effective. A process evaluation may also help explain the reasons why some defendants successfully complete the program and why other defendants terminate from the program before they graduate. Finally, a process evaluation may help facilitate replication of the Daviess Drug Court program in other regions of Kentucky.

The Daviess Drug Court program process evaluation used structured interviews for each of the different agency perspectives and a specific methodological protocol. The methodology protocol and interview procedures were used in all of the process evaluations across the state of Kentucky. This allows for comparisons of similarities and differences across the specific Drug Court program sites.

The limitations for this process evaluation report include generalizability across time and programs. This report is specifically for the planning grant stage of the Daviess Drug Court program. Changes that occur after this point in time are not reflected in this report. In addition, the representatives surveyed for this report may or may not reflect all attitudes toward the Daviess Drug Court program. Regardless, the report is critical for documenting the program or the planning process through the stated time period.

The process evaluation for the Daviess Drug Court program included semistructured interviews with and surveys of the Drug Court Judge, defense council, prosecutors, probation and parole representatives, jail personnel, police department representatives, and treatment program representatives. The specific breakdown of interviews is listed in the following table:

Table 5. Process Evaluation Methodology

Respondent	Number	Response Rate
	interviewed/returned	
Drug Court Judge	1	100%
Defense Council	2	100%
Prosecutors	2	100%
Probation & Parole	1	50%
Jail	2	100%
Police Department	1	100%
Treatment Programs	1	100%
Total	10	93%

The Judge interview lasted about four hours. All of the other surveys were self-administered. The Judge provided names of representatives who have had prior knowledge about the Daviess Drug Court program. Information was collected from March to May 1999. Because the program is still in the planning stages, many respondents indicated that the program would need to be implemented before they could formulate opinions about the effectiveness of the Drug Court program and its components. Feedback from each of the respondents is reported in separate sections.